

Bio Laura Iavicoli 4.26.24

Laura Iavicoli, MD, MBA, is Professor of Emergency Medicine at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. She has practiced emergency medicine for 25 years at Elmhurst Hospital Center in Queens, New York City. Elmhurst Hospital Center is a Level 1 trauma center in the largest public health system in the United States. It serves the largest number of uninsured and underinsured patients in the New York City Health + Hospitals System and provides care to people living in the most ethnically diverse zip code on the United States. Dr. Iavicoli has devoted her entire career to the care of these patients. In addition to serving the hospital as an emergency physician, she has performed in multiple leadership roles first as Assistant then Associate Director of Emergency Medicine, and later as Interim Patient Safety Officer/Chief Health Care Disparity Officer, Chief Quality Officer, Deputy Chief Medical Officer and now Chief Medical Officer.

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Elmhurst Hospital Center was the “epicenter of the epicenter” during the public health crisis, due to the marginalized immigrant, mostly uninsured patients that the hospital serves. As Elmhurst Hospital Center’s Clinical Emergency Management Director during the first wave of the pandemic, Dr. Iavicoli successfully guided the hospital through the first COVID-19 surge, leveraging her expertise in disaster management to innovate and implement new procedure and treatment protocols. Due to that success, she was asked to lead the New York City Health + Hospitals System through the subsequent waves of COVID-19 surges, creating protocols and guidance’s for all 11 acute care facilities, 5 post-acute, 1 long term care hospital, and the health system’s community health care to ensure the best care possible was given to the health system’s marginalized patient population.

In her prior role as Senior Vice President of Emergency Management for the New York City Health + Hospitals System, Dr. Iavicoli launched the Central Office Incident Management team, which encompassed section chiefs, unit leaders, a safety officer, a liaison officer, a public information officer, and an incident commander. She established a formal crisis communication system that leverages mass email communications, live webinars, an alert blog, intranet hub, and software applications to coordinate information distribution throughout the organization. She introduced a facility bed, staffing, and finance plan that will be implemented in stages during future patient surges. The systemwide surge plan features triggers for activation based on escalations in surge levels, as well as standards for equipment, personal protective equipment optimization, and staffing. Dr. Iavicoli also created system-wide processes, procedures, and best practices for scenarios involving special pathogens. Furthermore, she developed a multi-year calendar of Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP)-compliant exercises, tests, and drills as well as an Emergency Management Training Academy, including the curricula and course materials.

Notable awards: Mount Sinai Alumni Award (2023), Crain’s New York Business’ Notable Leaders in Health Care Award (2023), Advancing Emergency Care Award New York ACEP (2022), Top Doc Award (2022), 25th Annual Haddonfield Alumni Association Lifetime Achievement Award (2021), The 2021 Medical Marketing + Media (MM+M) Awards: The Short List (2021), Hometown Hero Essential Worker Award (2021), New York City Health + Hospitals, Elmhurst Emergency Department Crains 2020 List of “Notable in Healthcare” (2020), Schneps Media Healthcare Heroes

Award (2020), NYC Health + Hospitals, Elmhurst Emergency Department, and Healthcare Hero Award (2020)

Service roles: Disaster Medical Assistance Team Member (DMAT), February 2003-2014; Medical Reserve Corps, 2004-present; Federal Disaster Medical Assistance Team Member, 2003-2014; and Emergency Medicine All Threats (EMAT) Lead Member (2020-present)

Book: Iavicoli, L; Madad, Syra; Wei, Eric. The Covid-19 Response in New York City: Crisis Management in the Epicenter of the Epicenter. April, 2024. Elsevier

Lectures: Over 2 dozen national lectures on advancing emergency Management through protocols, planning and coordination

Committee memberships: Pandemic Response Institute Interagency Steering Committee Member (2021), Healthcare Coalition Governance Board Acute Care Representative (2021)

Dr. Iavicoli now serves as the Chief Medical Officer of Elmhurst Hospital Center. In this role, she plans and executes strategies to position the hospital as a high reliability organization through hospital-wide assessments, visioning workshops, and action plan development. She is an emergency medicine physician devoted to the patients her hospital serves, who face numerous cultural, financial, and social barriers in receiving healthcare. She has tirelessly worked to overcome those barriers as a clinician and leader.